## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A color separation system for generating optical signals for display applications, comprising:

an optical illumination source operative to generate an optical beam;

a first optically refractive element operative to refract the optical beam to produce an optical spectrum;

a selection mechanism operative to separate the optical spectrum into a first optical signal of a first predetermined wavelength range and a second optical signal of a second predetermined wavelength range; and

a second optically refractive element operative to temporally separate collimate the first optical signal and the second optical signal.

- 2. (original) The color separation system of claim 1 further wherein said selection mechanism is further operative to separate the optical spectrum into a third optical signal of a third predetermined wavelength range.
- 3. (original) The color separation system of claim 2 wherein the first predetermined wavelength range corresponds to a red region of the optical spectrum, the second predetermined wavelength range corresponds to a green portion of the optical spectrum, and the third predetermined wavelength range corresponds to a blue portion of the optical spectrum.
- 4. (original) The color separation system of claim 1 wherein the optical spectrum is separated into more than three wavelength ranges.
- 5. (original) A color separation system for generating optical signals for display applications, comprising:

an optical illumination source operative to generate an optical beam; a first optically dispersive element to generate an optical spectrum from the Appl. No. 10/756,809 Amdt. dated March 2, 2005 Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2004

optical beam;

and

a selection mechanism operated to separate the optical spectrum into a plurality of optical signals, each of the plurality of optical signals characterized by a predetermined wavelength range; and

a second optically dispersive element, wherein the plurality of optical signals are temporally separated.

- 6. (original) The color separation system of claim 5 wherein a first of the plurality of optical signals extends over a first wavelength range greater than a second of the plurality of optical signals.
- 7. (original) The color separation system of claim 6 wherein the first of the plurality of optical signals is a white light signal.
- 8. (currently amended) A method of generating optical signals for display applications comprising the steps of:

illuminating a first spectral dispersion element with a beam of light from a multispectral light source;

passing the beam of light through the first spectral dispersion element to produce a spatially dispersed optical spectrum;

separating the optical spectrum into a plurality of spectral components; selecting a plurality of sub-beams from the plurality of spectral components; passing the plurality of sub-beams through a second spectral dispersion element;

generating from the sub-beams a plurality of temporal spatially collimated signals corresponding to said sub-beams.

- 9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein a first of the spectral components corresponds to a red region of the optical spectrum, a second of the spectral components corresponds to a green portion of the optical spectrum, and a third of the spectral components corresponds to a blue portion of the optical spectrum.
  - 10. (currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein said plurality of

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temporal spatially collimated signals is a train of optical pulses.

- 11. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the selection mechanism includes a first transparent opening characterized by a first linear dimension and a second transparent opening characterized by a second linear dimension, wherein the second linear dimension is greater than the first linear dimension.
- 12. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the first optical signal passes through the first transparent opening and the second optical signal passes through the second transparent opening.
- 13. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the selection mechanism includes a plurality of transparent openings, at least two of the plurality of transparent openings separated from an adjacent transparent opening by a portion of the selection mechanism that blocks the optical spectrum.
- 14. (new) The method of claim 5 wherein the selection mechanism includes a first transparent opening characterized by a first linear dimension and a second transparent opening characterized by a second linear dimension, wherein the second linear dimension is less than the first linear dimension.
- 15. (new) The method of claim 10 wherein the train of optical pulses are each characterized by a spectral bandwidth.
- 16. (new) The method of claim 8 wherein selecting a plurality of sub-beams comprises providing a wavelength selector disc including a plurality of transparent openings corresponding to a plurality of spectral bandwidths.